

Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services
2016 Juvenile Detention Inspection - Compliance Report



Porter County Juvenile Detention Center
1660 South State Road 2
Valparaiso, Indiana 46385

Auditors

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Indiana Department of Correction
Division of Youth Services
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Facility: Porter County Juvenile Detention Center
1660 South State Road 2
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Inspection Date: March 31, 2016

Subsequent Visit Date(s): February 29, 2016
August 31, 2016

Technical Assistance Date(s): January 25, 2016
May 16, 2016

Auditors: Chance Sweat
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INTRODUCTION

The new Indiana Juvenile Detention Standards are in the process of being adopted, therefore the 20th annual evaluation of the Porter County Juvenile Detention Center consisted of an audit of the current 26 mandatory compliance standards or the corresponding 16 newly proposed mandatory compliance standards. Compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards is required to attain “Full Compliance”.

FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility county	Porter
Governing authority	Porter Circuit Court
Name of facility administrator	Alison Cox
Detention facility’s mission	To provide safe, secure, and temporary custody to juveniles who are accused or adjudicated of conduct subject to the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court who require a physically restricting environment for their own or the community’s protection.

Rated capacity	24
Population on date of audit	6
Average daily population for the last 12 months	14.7
Average length of stay for the last 12 months	16.7 days
Year the building was built	1994
Minor upgrades since last audit (i.e. painting, flooring, bedding, furnishings)	None
Major upgrades since last audit (i.e. plumbing, electrical, security system)	None
De-escalation techniques training	Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) / Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)
Physical force techniques training	Nonviolent Crisis Intervention (NCI) / Applied Physical Training (APT)
Chemical agents permitted	No
Name of food service provider	Porter County Juvenile Detention Center
Name of food service supervisor	Sharon Hall
Name of health care authority individual or agency and license/certification	Cindy Gilbert, RN
Name of mental health care authority individual or agency and license/certification	Mike Arbanas, MA, NCC

INSPECTION FOR COMPLIANCE WITH 16 MANDATORY STANDARDS

Auditors	Chance Sweat and Kristin Herrmann
File Review of the 16 mandatory standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero (0) standards were identified as non-applicable, and zero (0) mandatory standards were found to be non-compliant. • Porter County Juvenile Detention Center was in compliance with 100% of the mandatory standards.
Facility Tour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Center appeared clean, and the residents' furniture was functional and in good condition. • The following maintenance issues needed to be addressed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sleeping rooms and day room areas were in need of fresh paint. • Shower areas were in need of fresh paint and/or waterproof covering.
Youth Interviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three youth (two male and one female) were interviewed about their experiences at the Center. • Youth reported, without hesitation, feeling safe at the facility. • Youth did not make complaints or provide recommendations.
Recommendations	Provide user-friendly software for auditors to review electronic standard folders.

SUBSEQUENT ANNOUNCED AND/OR UNANNOUNCED VISIT(S)

On 2/29/2016, a subsequent visit was conducted of the Porter County Juvenile Detention Center by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Assistant Director Lutz. Youth were observed participating in education classes. The facility population count was 18 youth. All youth appeared to be in good health. All areas of the facility appeared to be well maintained, and sanitation was found to be satisfactory. The food service and medical departments were well maintained and organized.

On 8/31/2016, a second subsequent visit was conducted of the Porter County Juvenile Center by Chance Sweat. The facility tour was conducted by Director Cox, and youth were observed participating in education classes and several other youth at court. The facility population count was 12 youth. All youth appeared to be in good health. All areas of the facility appeared to be well maintained, and sanitation was found to be satisfactory. The food service and medical departments were well maintained and organized. During the tour, Mrs. Cox advised the Porter County maintenance staff had recently replaced the HVAC system.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE VISIT(S)

The Porter County Juvenile Detention Center's education technical assistance visit was conducted on 1/25/16 by Laurie Elliott. The education program operates year round with instructional days of five hours. Instruction is delivered via an on-site, licensed classroom teacher either utilizing a curriculum created at the facility, overseeing an approved online instructional program, or facilitating work assigned from the juvenile's home school. The method of instruction depends on the juvenile's need. Program staff includes one full-time teacher, one part-time teacher, and one part-time aide.

The Porter County Juvenile Detention Center's training and development technical assistance visit occurred on 5/16/16 and was conducted by Chance Sweat and Kristin Herrmann. The technical assistance provided included identifying key changes to the standards, answering questions, and discussing the facility's training plan.

CONCLUSION

Porter County Juvenile Detention Center is in full compliance with the 2016 Indiana Detention Center Standards Audit performed by the Indiana Department of Correction, Division of Youth Services.

A certificate of compliance will accompany this report, which becomes public information ten (10) days from the date of mailing.

Please contact me at (317) 607-6507 should you have any questions concerning this report.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Sweat

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cc: Christine Blessinger, DYS Executive Director of Youth Services
Kellie Whitcomb, Director of Reentry & External Relations
Alison Cox, Facility Director, Porter County Juvenile Detention Center
Honorable Mary R. Harper, Porter Circuit Court
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